

ANIMAL DISASTER PLAN

Source: "Disaster Animal Issues," Appendix 1 to Annex I, "Emergency Support Services, *State of Rhode Island Emergency Operations Plan*."

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this plan is to provide for the coordination of local resources in response to pet, farm, and wild animal care needs before, during, and following a significant natural disaster or man-made event.

SCOPE

The scope of this plan is the overall management, coordination, and prioritization of statewide resources that support pet, farm, and wild animal needs in the event of a declared emergency or disaster.

SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

Situation:

There are 52 million dogs and 63 million domestic cats in the USA. These animals rival the population of humans in this country. If a significant natural or man-made disaster occurs, it could quickly overwhelm local government resources and their ability to provide necessary services. Such a disaster necessitates a plan to mitigate the situation utilizing State and/or Federal assistance. A disaster of this magnitude would pose certain public health and nuisance threats such as injured and displaced animals, dead animals, rabies and other animal-related diseases, care and shelter of animals, and related issues. Additionally, these problems could tax human needs and response resources.

Generally when a disaster is imminent in the State of Rhode Island, the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is activated and representatives from selected state agencies gather for decision making. The Department of Health (HEALTH) and the Department of Environmental Management (DEM) will be the conduits for information and assistance for animal-related needs as delineated in this document. HEALTH is the primary agency for public health issues and the DEM is the primary agency with regard to animal health control issues.

In a deemed disaster, the assistance provided to address Disaster Animal Issues is a coordinated effort of the Rhode Island Veterinary Medical Association, The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, the Rhode Island Department of Health, and the Rhode Island Animal Control Officers Association. State emergency support services to implement this plan also include the volunteer sector.

Assumptions:

All appropriate Rhode Island State agencies and departments will be involved in emergency operations, consistent with their functions and responsibilities for disaster animal issues.

State government, private sector, and volunteer agencies that are assigned responsibilities for disaster animal issues will have established operating procedures specifying their emergency support service actions and will be prepared to communicate and coordinate these actions in an emergency to best utilize available capabilities.

CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

General

Given beliefs that animals can fend for themselves, animal issues may be overlooked in the disaster planning process. This lack of planning leads to serious problems when abandonment, injury, and hunger force animals from their habitats. By developing procedures to care for these animals, prior to such an event, this plan may reduce the risk to health and safety as well as the drain on state resources.

Phases Of Emergency Management

The State Emergency Operations Plan depicts the potential hazards to which Rhode Island could be exposed. The four phases of emergency management provide the framework for delivery of emergency support services. They are: *Mitigation, Preparedness, Response, and Recovery.*

Direction and Control

GENERAL

This plan shall be placed into effect when it is determined that there is a potential for a disaster with animal issues in Rhode Island. The decision to implement the Plan shall be coordinated with the State Emergency Management Agency for full effectiveness.

RESPONSE REQUIREMENTS

- The designated primary and support agencies must plan to be as self-sufficient as possible during the first 72 hours following an event, when there may be only limited assistance.
- With priorities identified by the Emergency Animal Response Team (EART), this Animal Issues Coordinator will allocate animal assistance resources using authorities and capabilities of primary and support agencies.
- With the advice and consent of the Director of the Department of Environmental Management, the State Veterinarian will implement this plan at the State Emergency Operation Center (EOC) in conjunction with the DART.

FUNCTIONS

Animal related services under this Plan are categorized in the following functional areas (indicated in italics), followed by the agencies assigned responsibility for each.

Investigate animal bites and provide rabies control

Rhode Island Animal Control Officers Association
DEM, Division of Agriculture
HEALTH, Disease Control Division

Assist in the capture of animals that have escaped confinement or that have been displaced from their natural habitat.

Rhode Island Animal Control Association
Roger Williams Park Zoo
Volunteer Services for Animals
Rhode Island Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA)
Providence Animal Rescue League
Potter League for Animals
Rhode Island Federation of Riding Clubs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
DEM, Division of Fish and Wildlife
Audubon Society of Rhode Island

Assist emergency response teams with animal related problems.

Rhode Island Animal Control Association
Save the Bay
Roger Williams Park Zoo
Volunteer Services for Animals
Rhode Island SPCA
Providence Animal Rescue League
Potter League for Animals
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

DEM, Division of Fish and Wildlife

Provide humane care and handling of animals before, during, and after disasters by providing emergency animal shelters as well as treatment/euthanasia assistance stations.

Rhode Island Veterinary Medical Association
Providence Animal Rescue League
Rhode Island SPCA
Potter League for Animals
Roger William's Park Zoo
Rhode Island Federation of Riding Clubs
Audubon Society of Rhode Island
DEM, Division of Fish and Wildlife
Rhode Island Animal Control Officers Association
Volunteer Services for Animals
Humane Society of the United States
American Humane Association

Appropriate equipment and resources for pre- and post-disaster sheltering and rescue of horses and farm animals.

Rhode Island Federation of Riding Clubs
DEM, Division of Agriculture
University of Rhode Island, Alton Jones Campus Farm

Provide, emergency care to all injured animals.

Rhode Island Veterinary Medical Association
Rhode Island Federation of Riding Clubs
Audubon Society of Rhode Island
DEM, Wildlife Rehabilitators

Remove and properly dispose of animal carcasses.

Rhode Island Animal Control Association
Rhode Island Federation of Riding Clubs
DEM, Air and Hazardous Waste Division
Solid Waste Management Corporation

Release information to the general public through responsible spokespersons from the designated agencies, regarding such issues as quarantine areas, rabies alert, public service information announcements, etc.

HEALTH
Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency
DEM
Rhode Island Veterinary Medical Association

ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES.

Primary Agencies

DEM, Division of Agriculture
DEM, Division of Fish and Wildlife
Local Animal Control Officers (ACOs)
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (DEM)

Rhode Island Department of Health (HEALTH)
Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency (RIEMA)
Rhode Island Veterinary Medical Association (RIVMA)

Designated Team Leaders

THE STATE VETERINARIAN AND RI ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS are designated as the team leaders for this plan. The State Veterinarian is responsible for the following:

- Notify, activate, and mobilize all agencies involved in disaster animal control issues.
- Coordinate all support agency actions in performance of assigned missions.
- Quarantine large animals for observation.
- Enforce state animal control statutes (Reference RI GL Chap. 4).
- Coordinate requests for assistance and additional resources necessary during performance of the mission with the appropriate agencies.
- The EART's representative to the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is responsible for coordinating the responsibility and activities assigned to the primary and support agencies in this plan.
- Arrange for the removal and disposal of dead livestock.
- Coordinate with the Rhode Island Department Health for the release of public information regarding animals and health issues.

THE RHODE ISLAND ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS ASSOCIATION (with support from the Providence Animal Rescue League, Potter League for Animals, RI SPCA and the Rhode Island Veterinary Medical Association) are responsible for the following:

- Investigate all animal bites.
- Facilitate the transportation of injured, stray, or nuisance animals to animal care facilities.
- Assist emergency response teams with animal related problems.
- Make arrangements for the removal and disposal of small dead animals.
- Enforce municipal animal control ordinance(s).
- Quarantine bite animals for observation.
- Impound animals at large.
- Euthanize sick and/or injured animals through assigned and authorized persons.
- Return wild animals to their natural environment.
- Investigate animal cruelty and neglect complaints.
- Facilitate the capture of nuisance animals.
- Help staff emergency animal shelters.

RHODE ISLAND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (RIEMA).

- Provide initial notification to the designated primary agencies that the State EOC is open and operational and that there is a need to implement all or portions of this plan.
- If deemed necessary, assist in coordinating requests for support between other agencies that are represented in the State EOC and the Federal government.
- Maintain, refine, and continually improve this plan.

RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (DEM),
DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE.

- Provide for management of farm animals

RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (DEM),
DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE.

- Provide for the management and care of displaced wild animals, including protected and endangered species.
- Return captured wild animals to their natural environment.

RHODE ISLAND VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

- Assist in the establishment of triage units for the care of injured animals.
- Provide emergency medical equipment and supplies for animals.
- Provide rabies vaccinations for animals in shelters.
- Provide additional animal shelter support.
- Euthanize sick and injured animals.
- Assist with the placement of animals in coordination with American Red Cross, Rhode Island Chapter.

Support Agencies

The following agencies have been identified as having support roles within this planning effort:

American Humane Association
Humane Society of the United States
Lincoln Greyhound Park
Potter League for Animals
Providence Animal Rescue League
Rhode Island Audubon Society
Rhode Island Farm Bureau
Rhode Island Federation of Riding Clubs
Rhode Island SPCA
Roger William's Park Zoo
Save the Bay
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Volunteer Services for Animals

RESPONSIBILITIES OF ALL SUPPORT AGENCIES

All support agencies identified in this plan are responsible for the following:

- Notify, activate, and mobilize all personnel and equipment to perform or support assigned functions as designated within this plan.
- Designate and assign personnel to staff all required facilities and provide representation when it is determined to be necessary.
- Coordinate all actions of the support agency with the primary agency when performing assigned missions.
- Identify all personnel and resource requirements that are in excess of the support agencies' capabilities to perform their assigned missions.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF SPECIFIC SUPPORT AGENCIES

Providence Animal Rescue League, Rhode Island SPCA, and Potter League for Animals.

- In coordination with the American Red Cross, Rhode Island Chapter, assist in the placement of animals.
- Help staff emergency animal assistance.
- Support the efforts of the local Animal Control Officers.
- Investigate animal bites.
- Help staff emergency animal shelter.

Roger William's Park Zoo.

- Provide expertise and assistance in the capture and control of wild and exotic animals.

Rhode Island Federation of Riding Clubs.

- Provide a Disaster Animal Relief Team (DART).
- Maintain equipment and resources necessary to manage livestock in a disaster situation
- Facilitate and optimize the work of DART veterinarians
- Provide or arrange the transportation of livestock in the aftermath of a disaster.
- Assist in the establishment of housing for livestock and displaced animals.

Rhode Island Audubon Society, Wildlife Rehabilitators Association of Rhode Island, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife.

- Provide transportation, rehabilitation and shelter for injured and displaced wildlife.
- Capture and return wildlife to original environment.

Lincoln Greyhound Park.

- Provide emergency animal shelter facilities.

Humane Society of the United States and American Humane Society.

- Provide staff and coordinate resources.

Rhode Island Farm Bureau.

- Provide expertise and assistance in the capture and control of injured and displaced livestock.

Save the Bay.

- Assist emergency response teams with animal related problems

PLAN DEVELOPEMENT AND MAINTENANCE.

This plan was developed with input from representatives of the Primary and Support Agencies under the aegis of the Rhode Island Animal Response Team (RIEART). Maintenance of the plan is assigned to the RIEMA.

The Chairperson of the RI BART will review this plan to ensure that necessary updates and revisions needed are prepared and coordinated, based on deficiencies identified in emergencies and/or exercises.

Changes to this plan will be coordinated by the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency and distributed to all holders of the State Emergency Operations Plan.

EMERGENCY ANIMAL RESPONSE TEAM (EART) PHASES OF OPERATIONS.

Mitigation Phase

- EART updates this Section of the State Emergency Operations Plan and provides lists of Animal Care facilities to the American Red Cross (ARC) and support agencies.
- ARC provides the EART with contact information for all ARC Shelters.
- EART serves as a clearing house for animal healthcare facilities.
- RIEMA maintains a copy of this plan for review.
- EART provides public education of animal issues disaster preparedness.

Preparedness Phase

- RIEMA alerts the State Veterinarian of the impact of impending disaster on the State of Rhode Island
- The State Veterinarian notifies RIVMA of alert.
- RIVMA activates phone fanout to alert participating support agencies.
- The American Red Cross begins releasing a press package, informing the public that competent pet care is available.
- RIVMA begins release of a press package, informing people how to care for animals during the disaster.
- If this plan is approved for State and Federal Recovery, a copy is maintained at the Disaster Field Office (DFO) and at the State EOC. In addition, when a regional reception and staging area has been established, a copy will be at that location.

Response Phase

DOMESTIC ANIMALS.

- Volunteers mobilize to transfer pets whose owners cannot drive.
- Owners drop pets off at assigned animal care facility, sign release forms, and go to an ARC shelter or make other arrangements for themselves. (See appended sample Release Form.)
- If the owner arrives at an ARC Shelter with pets, the Shelter Manager will refer to the Animal Care Facility Listing and direct the owner to the closest participating pet shelter facility.
- Owner transports pet to an animal care facility. If owner is unable to provide transportation, ARC Shelter Manager will assist in arranging transportation to the nearest animal care facility.

LIVESTOCK.

- Unless otherwise informed, the owner turns animals out to pasture, provides adequate water for animals, and applies a form of identification to each animal.
- All personnel, evacuees, and pets remain at the closest safe location until travel becomes safe and at that point transport to animal care facility.
- Livestock remain in pastures unless otherwise indicated.

Recovery Phase

- As the lead agency, the RIVMA will notify all support agencies to begin mobilization of resources and personnel and to commence recovery operations.
- Immediately following notification to activate the recovery phase of this plan, RIVMA will complete the following actions, commensurate with emergency priorities of the state and the availability of resources:

- Assure necessary emergency operating facilities and reporting systems continue to operate;
- Provide appropriate representation to the EOC;
- Maintain communications with the EOC, obtain status reports, and keep EOC informed of progress.
- Immediately following notification by RIVMA to commence response actions, each support agency will complete the following actions:
 - Staff facilities in accordance with each agency's disaster recovery plan;
 - Provide for replacements of each agency's staff;
 - Provide for on-going needs relative to each agency's designated area of responsibility;
 - Provide personnel and resources for field assessment and recovery teams, as necessary.
- The state EOC will be staffed on a 24-hour schedule to communicate and coordinate with other agencies and to prioritize recovery assistance requests.
- Municipal agencies that may perform similar functions must coordinate with the State EOC and be briefed by the State.
- All volunteer disaster animal issue agencies will coordinate directly with the animal issues coordinator.
- The EART will identify, mobilize, and deploy assessment team(s) to the disaster area(s) to determine specific health and safety needs and priorities. This EART will coordinate with other primary and support agencies represented at the EOC to provide support the relief of nuisance- and health-related problems involving animals and their impact on human relief efforts.
- This EART will continue to provide assistance in the following areas:
 - Capture of injured and displaced animals;
 - Sheltering, medical care, feeding, relocation, and reunification with owners;
 - Acquisition of additional food and supplies from vendors to support the relief efforts;
 - Continued coordination with other primary and secondary agencies for timely and proper carcass disposal;
 - Continue care of sheltered animals;
 - Providing an extended network for the adoption of unclaimed animals and the relocation of sick and injured animals.
- The Director of DEM or the State Veterinarian is responsible for all animal-related activity at the EOC, subject only to the guidance and direction of the EART and the policies of this Plan.
- Each family is responsible for retrieving its pets from the animal care facility or notifying the facility within five days if unable to do so.
- ARC will assist in locating any unreachable pet owners. Local Animal Control Officers will coordinate.
- All requests for animal control assistance will be channeled through the State EOC, then sent to the designated Animal Control Dispatch Center (ACDC).

AUTHORITY AND REFERENCES

Authority

FEDERAL

The Disaster Relief Act of 1974, Public Law 93-288, as amended.

Public Law 100- 707, (Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act).

STATE

General Laws of Rhode Island. Title 30, Chapter 15, Rhode Island Defense Civil Preparedness Act of 1973, as amended.

References

Rhode Island Disaster Animal Response Team (RIDART) Volunteer Mobilization Plan (separately promulgated)

DEFINITIONS OF ACRONYMS AND TERMS

Acronyms

ACO: Animal Control Officer
AHS: American Humane Society
ARC: American Red Cross
DART: Disaster Animal Relief Team
DEM: Department of Environmental Management
EART: Emergency Animal Response Team
EOC: Emergency Operations Center
EOP: Emergency Operations Plan
HEALTH: Rhode Island Department of Health
HSUS: Humane Society of the United States
PARL: Providence Animal Rescue League
PLA: Potter League for Animals (Private Organization)
RIACOA: Rhode Island Animal Control Officers Association
RIAS: Rhode Island Audubon Society
RIDEM: Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
RIEMA: Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency
RIDART: Rhode Island Disaster Response Team
RIEART: Rhode Island Emergency Animal Response Team
RIFRC: Rhode Island Federation of Riding Clubs
RIGL: Rhode Island General Law
RIVMA: Rhode Island Veterinary Medical Association
SOE: State of Emergency
SPCA: Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
SWMC: Solid Waste Management-Corporation
USFWS: The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (Federal Agency)
VSA: Volunteer Services for Animals

Terms

Euthanization - The act of humanely ending a severely sick or injured animal's life support.

Federal Disaster Declaration - A determination by the President of the United States that a disaster is of such magnitude and severity to warrant major disaster assistance to supplement the efforts and available resources of States, local government and disaster relief organizations in alleviating the damage, loss, hardship, or suffering caused thereby.

Rehabilitation - To restore to a former state or condition.

State of Emergency - By Declaration of a Governor or the Chief Elected Official of a local community (Mayor, Council President, Town Manager), an incident that is

beyond the scope of State or local government's ability to respond/protect local population and property.

State Veterinarian - Staff Member of the state Department of Environmental Management.

Triage - A system designed to produce the greatest benefit from limited treatment facilities by degree of injury/stress.

Quarantine - A period of time during which an animal suspected of carrying a contagious disease is detained/observed under enforced isolation to prevent disease from entering into the general population or natural habitat.

SUGGESTED EQUIPMENT FOR POST-DISASTER OPERATION IN ANIMAL SHELTERS

Priority * = Recommended S = Strongly Rec'd	Equipment	Check-In	Comments
*	Alcohol		
S	Animal Transport Vehicles		
*	Animal Traps, All Sizes		
S	Bandages, All Sizes		
S	Batteries, All Sizes		
*	Capture Nets, Net Guns		
S	Catch Poles		
*	Chairs		
S	Chlorine Bleach/Cleanser		
*	Clipboards		
S	Collars		
*	Computers with Software		
*	Copy Machine		
S	County Road Maps		
*	Desks		
S	Disinfectant Soap		
S	Drinking Water/Storage		
S	Erasers		
*	File Folders		
*	Filing Cabinets		
S	First Aid Kits for Humans		
S	Flashlights		
S	Garbage Bags, 30-gallon, Heavy Duty		
S	Gauze		
*	Generator		
S	Gloves, Latex		
S	Gloves, Leather Pairs		
S	Hammers		
S	ID Tags		
S	Leashes		
S	Medical Supplies		
S	Model Animal Control Forms		
S	Muzzles		
S	Nails		
S	Paper for Signs		
S	Pencils, Pens		
S	Pet Carriers/Crates, All Sizes		
*	Polaroid Cameras/Film		
*	Portable Radios		
*	Printers		
*	Radio Charging Units		
S	Refrigerator/Coolers		
S	Rolled Cotton		
*	Rope		
S	Screwdrivers		
S	Scrub Brushes		
*	Shovels		
S	Staplers, Staples		
S	Telephone Source		
S	Tranquilizer (Rompun/Ketamine/Telazol)		
S	Tranquilizer Guns with Darts		
S	Triple Antibiotic Ointment		
*	Typewriters		
*	Vehicle Fuel Source		
S	Waterproof Tape		

DISASTER SHELTER ANIMAL RECORD

DATE: _____ ID# _____ Animal was Returned ☐ Euthanized ☐ Placed ☐ Date _____

Name of Animal's Owner:			
Street Address:			
City, State, Zip:			
Phone:		Work Phone:	
Referred by:			
Kind of Animal: Dog <input type="checkbox"/> Cat <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> (Specify):			
Breed:		Other Identifiers (Markings, Collars, etc.)	
Age (be specific):		Birth Date:	Sex: Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>

MEDICAL HISTORY

Rabies Vaccinated Date: _____ 1 Year ☐ 2 Year ☐

Vaccinations:

RAB.					DRCP				FELV			
DHLP					PARV				HW			

[illegible]

RELEASE

The undersigned owner(s) (agent) of the animal(s) described as follows:

Name of Animal:	Breed
Description:	

hereby request the emergency quartering of these animals being evacuated because of a pending or occurring disaster. The animal owners (agents) hereby release the receiving property owners and any caregivers from any and all liability regarding the care and quartering of these animals during and following this emergency. The animal owners (agents) acknowledge that if emergency conditions pose a threat to the safety of these animals additional relocation may be necessary and that this release is intended to extend to such relocation.

The animal owners (agents) acknowledge that the risk of injury or death to these animals during an emergency can not be eliminated and agree to be responsible for any veterinary expenses which may be incurred in the treatment of their animals. It is also requested that the animal owners (agents) contribute to the feeding and daily care of their animals, if possible.

The cost "(if any) of returning these: animals after the emergency will be at the owners' (agents') expense. If an animal is not claimed within thirty (30) days, unless prior arrangements have been made. the animal owner will be notified of possible adoption or relocation.

Printed Name of Animal Owner (Agent): _____

Signed Name of Animal Owner (Agent): _____

Address of Animal Owner (Agent): _____

Home Phone _____

Place of Employment: _____ Work Phone: _____

Address to which Owner (Agent) plans to evacuate during the emergency:

Phone _____

Phone:

It is the responsibility of the animal owner (agent) to keep the receiving property owners aware of where the animal owner (agent) can be contacted following the emergency.

Address of Receiving Property: _____

DISASTER SHELTER REGISTRATION FORM

***A picture must be taken of this animal and
the ID # must appear on both this form and the picture.***

DATE: _____ ID# _____ Animal was Returned ☐ Euthanized ☐ Placed ☐ Date _____

Kind of Animal: Dog <input type="checkbox"/> Cat <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> (Specify):			
Breed:	Sex: Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Age:	Weight: Actual <input type="checkbox"/> or Est. <input type="checkbox"/>
Description and other Identifiers (Markings, Collars, etc.)			
Rabies Vaccinated Date: _____ 1 Year <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Year <input type="checkbox"/>			
If Stray, where was this animal found? (Be specific)			
Owner's Name:			
Address:			
City, State, Zip:			
Phone:			

Transportation to Hospital

Vehicle:
Driver/Sponsor:
Name of Person Bringing in the Animal (with Positive ID):
Address:
City/State/Zip

Holding Facility or Veterinary Hospital:

Address:
City/State/Zip
Name of Person Accepting the Animal (Print and Initial):

I certify that I am the owner/agent of the above listed animal and authorize veterinary care as indicated. I understand that if I have not claimed my pet within 30 days that it will be considered abandoned.

Signature of Person bringing in the animal: _____
Date: _____

PRINT OR TYPE FORM -- MUST BE LEGIBLE -- Part II on back of this form

ATTACH PHOTO HERE

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND DISASTER FORM
GENERAL RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS**

Despite all efforts to provide adequate training and a safe working environment, accidents may happen. This release form is designed to protect the State of Rhode Island from liability,. Please read this document carefully before signing it.

This release is executed this ____ day of 200__, by _____ of _____ City of _____, State of _____ hereinafter called "Releaser".

1. The Releaser, on behalf of himself/herself, his/her heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, hereby fully release and forever discharges the State of Rhode Island and those landowners whose real and personal property may be used in the rehabilitation, treatment or care of domestic or wild birds and animals. their officers, assigns, agents and heirs, from all claims, demands, actions or causes of action on account of death, injury, or other damages suffered by the Releaser which they now have or may hereafter have against the State of Rhode Island, and the landowners whose real and personal property may be used in the rehabilitation of indigenous wild birds.
2. The Releaser has read this release and. has understood the terms used herein and the consequences thereof

Initial: _____

RELEASE AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE

The undersigned volunteer (or parent of volunteer) in _____ acknowledges Rhode Island Animal Emergency Support Plan (RIAESP) that he/she understands that the STATE OF RHODE ISLAND. and any other sponsor and/or volunteer or contributor makes no representations as to the safety of the site or sites upon which the participants may go as a part of the Project, and that the activities on said sites are at the sole risk of the undersigned.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of participation in the RIAESP, the undersigned for himself/herself and for his/her heirs, spouse, child, legal representatives and assigns, does hereby release and forever discharge the STATE OF RHODE ISLAND and any other sponsor volunteer and/or contributor, their agents, officials, and employees from any and all liability for any personal injuries or other damages which may be suffered in connection with said activities. Further, the undersigned covenants not to sue on behalf of himself/herself or his/her children, the STATE OF RHODE ISLAND. and any other sponsor, volunteer, contributor, their agents, officials, and employees for any losses or damages occasioned during the use of said site. The undersigned expressly agrees that this Release and Covenant Not To Sue is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by the laws of the State of Rhode Island and that if any portion is held invalid it is agreed that the balance shall, notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect.

The undersigned certifies that he/she has carefully read all of the above, that he/she understands it, and that this release is signed of his/her own free will.

Signature _____ Date _____

Print Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Declaration of Witnesses:

I, the undersigned witness, certify that _____ in my presence acknowledged that he/she has read and understood the meaning and consequences of the foregoing, and. has signed the same in my presence.

Signature _____ Date _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

If participant is under 18 years of age, Signature of Parent/Guardian:

Date _____ Signature _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

PREPAREDNESS PHASE PRESS RELEASE

Small Animal Pets (dogs, cats, birds, reptiles, rodents, etc.)

1. Persons with pets who may be displaced by the disaster should make arrangements NOW for their pets' safety.
2. Contact hotels, motels, friends, relatives, kennels, boarding facilities, veterinarians to seek temporary housing for themselves and their pets.
3. Assemble the following items to bring with you: Pet carrier, cage, or crate, leashes, pet food, bottled water, medical records, medication, litter, and food dishes.
4. Make sure identification tags or tape are securely fastened to your pet's collar and carrier/cage.
5. Bring all your pets inside.

Livestock (horses, cattle, swine, goats, etc.)

1. Owners of livestock who may be displaced by the disaster should move their animals to a safer area NOW.
2. Consider evacuation of horses if they are maintained in stables or in pastures of less than one acre in area.
3. Clean and fill any large, outside vessels (row boats, canoes, feed troughs, dumpsters) with water for your animals.
4. Have on hand a box packed with halters, leads, tape, rope, tarps, and medical supplies,. records, and food. Bring these materials into the house.

RESPONSE PHASE PRESS RELEASE

Small Animal Pets (dogs, cats, birds, reptiles, rodents, etc.)

1. If you are forced to evacuate DO NOT LEAVE YOUR PET HOME ALONE!!
2. If you are evacuating to a Red Cross shelter, the following facility will have pet sheltering: THAYER ICE ARENA at THE MICKEY STEVENS COMPLEX on SANDY LANE, WARWICK.
3. Your pet will not be accepted for sheltering if it is not confined in a pet carrier, pet cage or pet crate.
4. Bring your pet's leash, food, dishes, medication, and medical records.
5. Place identification tags on your pet and identification tape on all other items.
6. If you decide to stay at home, bring all pets inside.

Livestock (horses, cattle, swine, goats, etc.)

1. Place identification on livestock animals (tape on halters, spray paint, paint on hooves., leg or neck bands). Write down all band/tag numbers.
2. Provide adequate water for animals.
3. Close barn and/or stall doors. Open all interior pasture gates. TURN LIVESTOCK OUT ONTO A LARGE PASTURE.